

Date: January 30, 2003

Location: Cleveland, OH

To: Commandant (G-LRA)

Room 3406

U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters

2100 Second Street, SW

Washington, DC 20593

From: Thomas Brzechowski, Jr.

Vice President

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Docket Number (USCG-2002-14069)

1) In the preamble to the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, it states "Contracting Governments when approving ship and port facility security plans should pay due cognisance to the fact that ship's personnel live and work on the vessel and need shore leave and access to shore based seafarer welfare facilities, including medical care."

2) In Part A of the ISPS Code it further states that "procedures for facilitating shore leave for ship's personnel or personnel changes, as well as access of visitors to the ship including representatives of seafarers welfare and labour organizations".

3) And in Conference Resolution #11 Human Element Related Aspects and Shore Leave for Seafarers, it states "CONSIDERING that, given the global nature of the shipping industry, seafarers deserve adequate protection under all circumstances, BEING AWARE that seafarers work and live on ships involved in international trade and that access to shore facilities and shore leave are vital elements of seafarers general well-being and, therefore, to the realisation of safer and cleaner oceans, BEING AWARE ALSO that the ability to go ashore is essential for joining and leaving a ship after the agreed period of service, URGES Contracting Governments to take the human element into consideration."